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There were inspected and passed 15 cabin and 693 steerage passengers and 129 pieces of large and 793 pieces of small baggage. On February 25, the steamship *Marco Minghetti*, of the Italian General Navigation Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 1 cabin and 569 steerage passengers and 79 pieces of large and 653 pieces of small baggage. Five pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam. At the request of the ship's doctor I inspected the 303 passengers which had been embarked at Palermo. He desired that they be "inspected from the immigrant law point of view." I found 1 case of sarcoma of the testicle, 1 case tuberculosis, and 1 case of measles. The ship's doctor promptly had these cases disembarked.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

NAPLES, ITALY, *March 7, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended March 7, 1900, the following ships were inspected:

On March 1, the steamship *Fürst Bismarck*, of the Hamburg American Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 34 cabin and 868 steerage passengers and 98 pieces of large and 863 pieces of small baggage. On March 3, the steamship *California*, of the Anchor Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 804 steerage passengers and 80 pieces of large and 1,240 pieces of small baggage. On March 3, the steamship *Massilia*, of the Fabre Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 997 steerage passengers and 80 pieces of large and 1,189 pieces of small baggage. On March 6, the steamship *Tartar Prince*, of the Prince Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 6 cabin and 988 steerage passengers and 129 pieces of large and 970 pieces of small baggage. Thirteen pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

JAPAN.

Report from Yokohama—Plague continues in Formosa.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *February 22, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the sanitary condition of Japan at present is, on the whole, satisfactory. No quarantinable epidemic disease exists in the country, with the exception of Formosa, save dysentery, of which a considerable number of cases have continued to occur throughout the winter, though the season has been an exceptionally cold one.

No case even suspected to be of plague has been met with in the Empire since January 13, outside of Formosa, where the disease is still present, there having been in the island 75 cases with 43 deaths from January 1 to February 5, inclusive.

The Japanese authorities have, within a few days, discontinued their crusade against rats. Of these dangerous rodents the bodies of 100,000

were purchased in Tokyo at an expense of 5,000 yen. It is a pity that the attack on these animals, which are exceedingly plentiful in Japan, was not longer maintained.

Respectfully,
 The SURGEON GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., Sanitary Inspector.

End of plague in Japan.

KOBE, JAPAN, *February 22, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the plague in Japan is now entirely stamped out, no case having occurred for over two months in this ken (district) and for nearly two months in the Osaka ken. The health of this port and surrounding district is better now than has been the case for some years past, due to the thorough cleansing and sanitation enforced by the authorities.

Respectfully,
 The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

J. BUCKWILL FOWLER,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

NETHERLANDS.

Report from Rotterdam.

ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS, *March 8, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the five days ended March 3, 1900:

Four vessels were inspected and received bills of health. Of these, the steamship *Statendam*, of the Holland-American Line, was the only one carrying passengers. She sailed on the 1st instant for New York via Boulogne-sur-Mer, carrying 39 cabin and 346 steerage passengers. One hundred and sixty-five pieces of baggage were inspected and labeled and 65 pieces were disinfected and labeled.

The health of this port continues good.

Respectfully,
 The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

A. R. THOMAS,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

PORTO RICO.

Reports from Ponce.

PONCE, PORTO RICO, *February 26, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the quarantine and abstract bills of health reports for the week ended February 24, 1900, also the mortality statistics for the two weeks of the same date.

The death rate from tuberculosis and digestive diseases, especially that due to improper and insufficient food, continues high.

Respectfully,
 The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

W. W. KING,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.